

Library Quarterly

FALL 2023

All-Star Authors / p.1

Explore the Universe / p.10

Picture Book Month / p.15



the magazine of the Vernon Area Public Library



Message from the Director

What a great summer we had at Vernon Area Public Library! Thanks to all of you who shared time and space with us over the past few months. From the Summer Reading Kickoff where nearly 1,000 of us enjoyed the library campus, to our Family Fun Fridays in the outdoor Library Learning Garden and our outdoor Concert Series, we enjoyed serving you and providing you with quality programming and services, as well as an opportunity to connect with others in the community.

As the school year and the Autumn season begins, you may have a different daily or weekly rhythm. We hope the Library is a scheduled part of your regular Autumn pace. Library staff created a great slate of programs to fulfill patrons' intellectual curiosity this Fall and are always here as your trusted place for resources and access to information. As you page through this edition of *Library Quarterly*, we hope you schedule in the opportunity to experience the Library fully.



Vernon Area Public Library

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All-Star Authors

From exciting sophomore novels to the latest in a long line of bestsellers, get your to-read list ready for these new releases from all-star authors.

Tom Lake
by Ann Patchett

***The Heaven & Earth
Grocery Store***
by James McBride

Happiness Falls
by Angie Kim

Learned by Heart
by Emma Donoghue

The Fraud
by Zadie Smith

The River We Remember
by William Kent Krueger

Starter Villain
by John Scalzi

Land of Milk and Honey
by C Pam Zhang

The Museum of Failures
by Thrity Umrigar

The Leftover Woman
by Jean Kwok

Let Us Descend
by Jesmyn Ward

The Future
by Naomi Alderman



Library Foundation Update

At the Summer Library Celebration held on June 11, members of the Board of Directors of the Foundation for the Vernon Area Public Library were pleased to greet many attendees and introduce the Foundation's new plans and projects aimed at amplifying the excellence of the Library. Several of the Foundation Directors staffed a table at the event, speaking with Library patrons about opportunities to support the Library by volunteering to help with Foundation fundraising efforts or making monetary gifts. The Board members reminded everyone of a great opportunity to support the Library by mentioning the Foundation when dining on June 20th at Culver's in Lincolnshire and Buffalo Grove. Culver's is donating a generous portion of those sales to the Foundation.

The Foundation aims to raise general donations to support library programs, including sponsorship of speakers and special events. The Foundation also works with the Library Board of Trustees to help realize goals in the Library's strategic plan, such as long-term building improvements and sustainability projects.

If you would like to become involved with the Foundation, we will be pleased to speak with you. Please visit VAPLD.info/foundation or email us at info@FVAPLD.org, and a Foundation Director will reach out.



Featured Resources for adults



PRINT YOUR DREAMS

Sublimation printing lets you apply vibrant, full-color designs to surfaces like textiles or ceramics. Try it out at a Makerspace class or Open Makerspace session this fall.



EASY "E"

Library e-books are great! Free checkouts, instant delivery, and no supply chain or overdue worries. Link your Kindle or download a library e-reading app to get started.
guides.VAPLD.info/ebooks



BARRIER-FREE COMPUTER ACCESS

Need a computer or a printer? Your library can help. New: no library card number or special pass needed to log in. Just walk up and get started. Longer session times, too.

Classes & Events for adults

Note location with each event (🌳 outdoors, 🏙 indoors, 🌐 online). Some events offer both in-person and streaming options for attendance. All events are free and open to all. Signup is required unless otherwise noted. Sign up at VAPLD.info/calendar or call 224-543-1485.

Illinois Libraries Present

Log in for live events with celebrated authors and cultural influencers. Sign up in advance to receive the Zoom link.

These events are made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration among public libraries. Funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

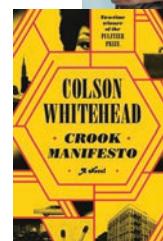
Pulitzer Prize–Winning Author Colson Whitehead

Wednesday, September 6, 7–8 pm [Z](#)



National Endowment for the Arts Fellow Stephen Graham Jones Talks Horror

Wednesday, October 4, 7–8 pm [Z](#)



Children's Book Author & Illustrator Grace Lin

Tuesday, October 17, 7–8 pm [Z](#)

Netflix Bake Squad Star Maya-Camille Broussard

Wednesday, November 8, 7–8 pm [Z](#)



Art Workshop: Intro to Needle Felting

Bird Walk at Daniel Wright Forest Preserve

Spot local and migrating birds during a nature walk with a birding expert from Red Hill Birding. See the colors, listen to sounds, and connect with nature.

Saturday, September 9, 9–10:30 am

Captain Daniel Wright Woods Forest Preserve, Mettawa

Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia-Related Behavior

An educator from the Alzheimer's Association shares caregiver tips about responding to common dementia-related behaviors such as agitation and confusion. This webinar is offered in partnership with Indian Trails Public Library.

Monday, September 11, 2–3 pm

Outdoor Concert: Four Star Brass Band

Discover the distinctive sounds and irresistible joy of New Orleans music with the Four Star Brass Band. Clap and tap along to the sounds history and tradition from French Quarter and second line parades.

Wednesday, September 13, 1–2 pm

Artificial Intelligence: Applications & Concerns

Artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms are everywhere, applying for jobs, taking photos on your phone, or engaging in online dating. But what are AI algorithms and how do they work? What ethical considerations plague AI? Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Mathematics Sara Jamshidi from Lake Forest College addresses these questions.

Wednesday, September 13, 7–8 pm

Hallelujah! Leonard Cohen & Friends

A highly influential singer and songwriter whose work spanned nearly 50 years, Leonard Cohen's style was rooted in poetry. Learn about Leonard's personal background, examples of his best work, and the musicians who inspired him.

Monday, September 18, 1–2:15 pm

Professional Headshots Drop-In

Improve your LinkedIn account, introduce potential customers to who you are, or make your social media profiles stand out with a professional portrait. Come photo-ready. Finished photos will be delivered via email. Session times are first-come, first-served. No signup required.

Tuesday, September 19, 12–3 pm

Blood Drive

Did you know that one blood donation can save up to three lives? Make an important impact on our community by participating in this neighborhood blood drive. Presented in partnership with Buffalo Grove Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce and Village of Lincolnshire. Signup is recommended, walk-ins accepted if availability allows.

Thursday, September 21, 12–5 pm

Free People Read Freely: Books on the Chopping Block

City Lit theater performs live dramatic readings by professional actors of short excerpts taken from the top 10 most frequently challenged books in the US.

Wednesday, September 27, 7–8 pm

Nonprofit Board Expo

Board leadership is another way to give back to your community. Learn what mission-based organizations are looking for. Meet local nonprofits looking for potential board members. Presented in partnership with Lake County Community Foundation and GiveNKind.

Thursday, September 28, 6–8:30 pm

Book Challenges on the Rise: Support Your Freedom to Read

Panel discussion featuring Illinois Secretary of State (and State Librarian) Alexi Giannoulias and others. See details, p.9.

Monday, October 2, 7 pm

Understand Your Medicare Options

Get a better understanding of the choices available to you during open enrollment. Benefits advisor Mike Altman provides an overview and answers your questions.

Wednesday, October 4, 7–8 pm

American Vacation: 12,000 Miles into the Wild West

Take a journey with author Raluca Barbu as she shares stories and stunning photos from her incredible expedition across 19 states, 33 national and state parks, and corners of paradise hidden deep within the North American landscape.

Thursday, October 5, 1–2 pm

Art Workshop: Intro to Needle Felting

Do a light hand needle felting, try out a felting machine, and felt a bar of soap for a body scrubber. No experience

necessary. Supplies provided. Our instructor is Shari Pontillo from Twisted Fiber Studio.

Monday, October 16, 7–8:30 pm 

Discerning Misinformation in the Digital Age

It's easier than ever to access to news and information, but perhaps harder than ever to know what's true. Explore tools and approaches to more critically distinguish fact from fiction.

Tuesday, October 17, 1–2 pm 

Dramatic Portrayal of Jacqueline Kennedy

Historian and actress Leslie Goddard portrays the former first lady in this unforgettable portrayal where you will meet the private woman behind the public myth.

Monday, October 23, 1–2 pm 

Meet the New Buffalo Grove Police Chief

Have a cup of coffee with Buffalo Grove's new police chief, Brian Budds. Bring your safety questions to this informal gathering.

Monday, October 23, 2–3 pm 

Louis Sullivan: An Architectural Innovator

Architectural historian Timothy Wittman from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago examines this important architect's approach to solving design issues and how it influenced his followers, including Frank Lloyd Wright.

Wednesday, October 25, 7–8 pm 

Laughing Matters: The Life & Laughs of Carol Burnett

Carol Burnett can do it all — sing, dance, act, make you laugh, and break your heart. Take a stroll with the sensational singer and storyteller Hilary Ann Feldman as she guides you through a tour of Carol Burnett's life and laughs.

Wednesday, November 1, 1–2 pm 

Cybersecurity & Fraud Prevention: Protecting Yourself & Your Family

Learn how scammers, hackers, and some businesses work to separate you from your money (and your passwords) and what you can do to help protect yourself. Presented by consumer technology expert Mike Lakiotis.

Wednesday, November 1, 7–8 pm 

Volunteering: Making It Count

Career Transitions Center Executive Director Anita Jenke shares the professional benefits of volunteering. Volunteering can help keep your skills current and your resume full while gaining valuable contacts, experiences, and even job opportunities. Presented by the Lake Cook Career Collaborative, a group of local public libraries focused on career development. Learn more at CareerCollab.org.

Monday, November 6, 7–8 pm 

Financial Fitness Series

Financial Fitness 2023 is a collaborative series of virtual programs presented by BIG (Business Interest Group). BIG is a group of business librarians in the Chicago suburbs who meet quarterly to discuss business programs, presenters, databases, and our current challenges.

Power of Budgeting

Local Buffalo Grove Edward Jones Financial Advisor Roy Mason explores the importance of creating and maintaining a budget. Examine the difference between wants and needs, and how to set goals for personal spending, savings and debt repayment.

Wednesday, September 20,
6:30–7:30 pm 

Investing Made Simple

Financial educator Karen Chan will effectively teach the essential concepts of stocks, bonds and mutual funds. You'll learn how to put that information into use as she explains index funds and target retirement funds, and how they can simplify your investing decisions.

Tuesday, October 3, 7–8:30 pm 

Retirement Income Strategies

Past National President of the Financial Planning Association Ed Gjertsen II, CFP, guides you through the various strategies and challenges of successfully navigating the important financial aspects of your retirement years.

Wednesday, October 11, 7–8:30 pm 

Terry Savage Talks Money

Nationally recognized expert and independent voice for the financial consumer, Terry Savage discusses the volatile economy, financial markets and personal finance topics.

Wednesday, October 18, 7–8:30 pm 

Space Exploration with the James Webb Telescope

The James Webb Space Telescope is fundamentally altering our understanding of black holes, the early universe, stars, and planets. Learn about its groundbreaking mission as we explore the latest stunning images from the telescope with astro educator Michelle Nichols.

Monday, November 6, 7–8 pm  

Concert with Buffalo Grove Singers Encore!

Buffalo Grove Encore! presents "Kaleidoscope," a collection of pop, oldies, musical theater, and legends of the Great American Songbook.

Sunday, November 12, 1–2 pm 

Electrifying Your Home

Reduce your carbon footprint and maybe even save money when you switch your home heating/cooling or appliances to electric. Scientist and certified climate change professional Kris Murphy shares transition tips plus the federal, state, and local financial incentives available. Presented in partnership with Glenview and Highland Park public libraries.

Monday, November 13, 7–8 pm 

War Letters

Throughout history, military men and women have captured the intensity of warfare by writing letters home. This

performance of *War Letters* with Rebecca Tulloch and Phil Lauricella tells the story of American wars from the viewpoint of the men and women in the front lines.

Tuesday, November 14, 1–2 pm 

Toys for Tots Collection

Drop off new, unwrapped toys at the library for the annual Toys for Tots campaign with the Great Lakes Marine Corps.

Friday, November 17–Sunday, December 10 

Fiftyone Things To Say: Stories & Songs of Black History

African American folk tales, jazz melodies, and true life experience all coexist in this performance that weaves a tapestry from history with musician and storyteller Kelly Campos.

Monday, November 20, 1–2 pm 

Art Workshop: Winter Card Making

Create fun and unique greeting cards for the holiday season with art instructor Karina Guico. Use layering, stamps, paper punches, and other embellishments to design four different cards. No experience necessary. Supplies provided.

Tuesday, November 28, 7–8:30 pm 

Computers & Makerspace

Restoring Photos with GIMP

GIMP is a free, open-source alternative to Adobe Photoshop. Learn simple colorizing tools, and fixing tears, damage, and blemishes.

Tuesday, September 5, 7–8:30 pm 

Makerspace Class

Make a fun project using library makerspace equipment. Create a new project each session. See online calendar for details and signup.

Thursdays: 6:30–8:30 pm 

September 14: TBD

October 12: TBD

November 9: Etched Coasters

Microsoft Word

Choose the sessions that interest you.

Thursdays, 7–8:30 pm 

September 21: Basics

September 28: Formatting

October 5: Working with Objects

October 19: Advanced Topics

Microsoft Excel

Choose the sessions that interest you.

Tuesdays, 7–8:30 pm 

September 26: Basics

October 3: Formulas & Functions

October 10: Charts & Graphs

October 17: Pivot Tables

October 24: VLookup

Microsoft PowerPoint

Choose the sessions that interest you.

Thursdays, 7–8:30 pm 

October 26: Ready To Go

November 2: Animations & Transitions

Canva for Mug Designs

Learn to use Canva to create a design that can be printed on a mug. This class covers creating a Canva account, the Canva user interface, removing backgrounds and unwanted elements from photos, and specific design considerations for mugs like spacing and sizing.

Please note that we will not be printing mugs in this class. Sublimation printing services are available separately through Open Makerspace classes listed below.

Tuesday, November 7, 7–8:30 pm 

Open Makerspace

Stop by to work on personalized gifts for the holidays. We won't be teaching new skills, but craft supplies will be available from previous Makerspace programs, including Silhouette Cameo, jewelry, card making, and sublimation.

Thursday, November 16, 7–8:30 pm 

Thursday, December 7, 6:30–8:30 pm 

Discussions & Meetups

English Language Learners Conversation Group

Practice your English conversation skills with a librarian and other non-native English speakers.

Tuesdays, 11 am–12 pm [Z](#)

September 5 and 19; October 3 and 17; November 7 and 21

Games for Grown-ups

Play tabletop games together online or at the library, individually or as a group.

Sundays, 12:30–4:30 pm [Z](#) [B](#)

September 10, September 24, October 15, November 5

Book Discussion with Judy Levin

Read and discuss intriguing selections beyond the best sellers.

Thursdays, 10–11:30 am [Z](#)

September 14: *The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson

October 12: *Crying in H Mart* by Michelle Zauner

November 16: *Count the Ways* by Joyce Maynard

Must-Read Nonfiction Discussion

Read and discuss *An Immense World* by Ed Yong. Readers break outside their "sensory bubble" to consider the unique ways that dogs, dolphins, mice, and other animals experience their surroundings. Winner of the 2023 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction.

Monday, September 18, 7–8 pm [Z](#)

Novel Night Book Discussion

Read and discuss captivating fiction you might have missed.

Tuesdays, 7–8:15 pm [B](#)

September 19: *Mary Jane*

by Jessica Anya Blau

November 21: TBD

Great Decisions Discussion Group

Professor Gary Midkiff leads discussion of topics from the Foreign Policy Association *Great Decisions* briefing book.

Wednesdays, 10:30 am–12 pm [Z](#) [B](#)

September 20, October 18, November 15

Fridays, 1–3 pm [Z](#) [B](#)

September 8, October 13, November 10

*September 8 meeting is online only

Writers' Support Group

Share work, meet fellow writers, get constructive feedback, and discuss the publishing business in this informal group. All writers welcome.

Thursdays, 6:30–8:30 pm [Z](#)

September 14, October 12, November 9

Thirsty Thursdays: Books on Tap

For readers in their 20s and 30s. See [Meetup.com](#) for details and signup.

Thursdays, 6–8 pm [B](#)

The Chatterbox, Long Grove

September 21, October 19, November 16

Reel Talk Movie Discussion

Use your library card to check out or stream the film in advance, then log in to share your thoughts.

Fridays, 3:30–4:30 pm [Z](#)

September 22: *Rams*

October 20: *Mary Shelley*

November 17: *In the Heat of the Night*

Off the Hook: Knit & Crochet Group

Craft in the company of other crafters, online. Find updates and group messages on [Meetup.com](#).

Mondays, 7–8:30 pm [Z](#)

September 25, October 23, November 27

Memory Café - Buffalo Grove

Offering people with memory loss and their care partners activity and connection in a safe, supportive environment.

Thursdays, 2–3 pm [B](#)

Alcott Center, Buffalo Grove

September 28, October 26, November 30

World Language Movie Discussion: *I'm Your Man*

In order to obtain funds for her research, Alma is persuaded to participate in an extraordinary study. For three weeks she is required to live with Tom, a humanoid robot designed to be the perfect life partner for her, tailored to her character and needs. View the movie on Kanopy or check out the Blu-ray, then join a discussion with other fans of international cinema.

Wednesday, October 25, 7–8 pm [Z](#)





Celebrate Your Freedom to Read

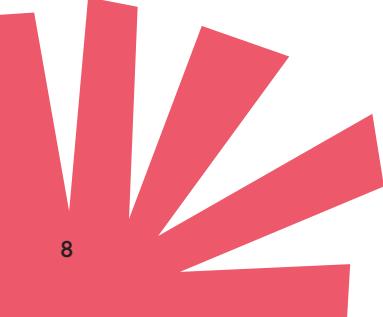
At the beginning of October, libraries across the country will observe Banned Books Week, a celebration of the freedom to read. The annual observance also highlights the value of access and draws attention to the harms of censorship.

What is the “freedom to read”? In the United States, the Bill of Rights guarantees everyone the freedom to express ideas without governmental interference. Partnered with the right to express ideas is the right to receive them. This, too, is a protected freedom: the “freedom to read.”

It’s a simple but powerful concept. Great thinkers throughout history have underlined freedom of expression as critical to advancing society. The Supreme Court called it “the indispensable condition of nearly every other form of freedom.”

Public libraries play an important role in helping to fulfill its promise. By providing free and equal access to a broad range of materials, libraries allow you to pursue the information, ideas, and cultural experiences of your choosing.

At your library, you are free to research your choice of topics. Here you can find facts to help you make a financial or personal decision, gain better understanding of a subject for school or work, or solve a problem. Whatever your informational needs, you can rely on your public library to help achieve your purpose or satisfy your curiosity.



At your library, you are free to enjoy your choice of creative works. Here you can find books, movies, and music that let you explore places, people, and perspectives beyond your own experience. Or perhaps you’ll recognize an author’s experience as similar to your own, and you’ll feel more understood and connected. Whether you’re looking to get lost in a book or find yourself in one, you can rely on your library to provide a vast variety to choose from.

Of course, a vast variety of choices is only meaningful if it includes things that you want. Public libraries have a responsibility to provide meaningful choices to the public that they serve. That is why the shelves look different at every library: they are locally curated to reflect the interests, languages, and accessibility needs of their local community.

This fall, libraries stand together with booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, and readers of all types in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas — your freedom to read.



Pick up a button declaring your support for the freedom to read when you visit the library during the first week of October.

Celebrate Your Freedom to Read Events

Although constitutionally protected, the freedom to read is never fully secure. Unfortunately, there are those who would limit that freedom. These programs in honor of Banned Books Week illuminate the cost of censorship and highlight Illinois' efforts to protect free expression.

Books on the Chopping Block

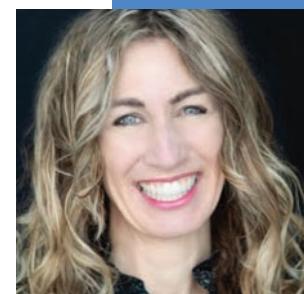
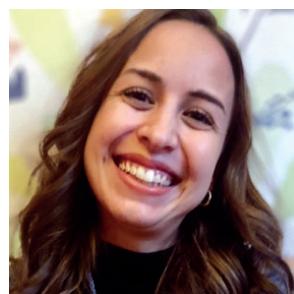
City Lit Theater presents live dramatic readings of short excerpts taken from the top 10 most frequently challenged books in the US. The list for 2023 includes *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison and *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky.

Wednesday, September 27, 7–8 pm 

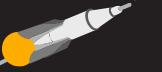
Book Challenges on the Rise: Support Your Freedom to Read

Online panel discussion examining the current state of book challenges, Illinois' legislative response, and the implications of censorship on communities. Featuring Illinois Secretary of State and State Librarian Alexi Giannoulias, Reaching Across Illinois Library System executive director Monica Harris, and Illinois authors Jasmine Warga and Jarrett Dapier. Moderated by syndicated columnist Heidi Stevens. Offered by Vernon Area Public Library to libraries across Illinois.

Monday, October 2, 7 pm 



EXPLORE THE UNIVERSE AT YOUR LIBRARY



Spectacular celestial events and space exploration milestones are expected over the coming months. Enhance your experience and understanding with the stellar resources available from your library. Explore books, movies, educational programs, and even astronomy equipment — all available to you with a Vernon Area Public Library card.

Telescopes: Borrow a telescope and explore the night sky. Earlier sunsets and extra hours of dark make autumn and winter great for stargazing. The 4.5" Orion StarBlast is a compact grab-and-go telescope designed for entry-level and intermediate skywatchers. To borrow, search for "Orion telescope" in the catalog.

Physics, astronomy, and aeronautics: A galaxy of educational books and videos for every age and level of understanding are available on library shelves. Make sure to explore the great selection of documentaries on Kanopy streaming video, too.

Stories set in space: The mystery, danger, and mind-blowing awesomeness of outer space makes it a favorite setting for adventurous stories of all genres.

Find book lists and catalog links at guides.VAPLD.info/space

OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD PROGRAMS

Cartoon Constellations Workshop with Mark Anderson GRADES K-5

See details p.14.

Thursday, October 5

Grades K-2: 4:30–5:30 pm

Grades 3-5: 6–7 pm

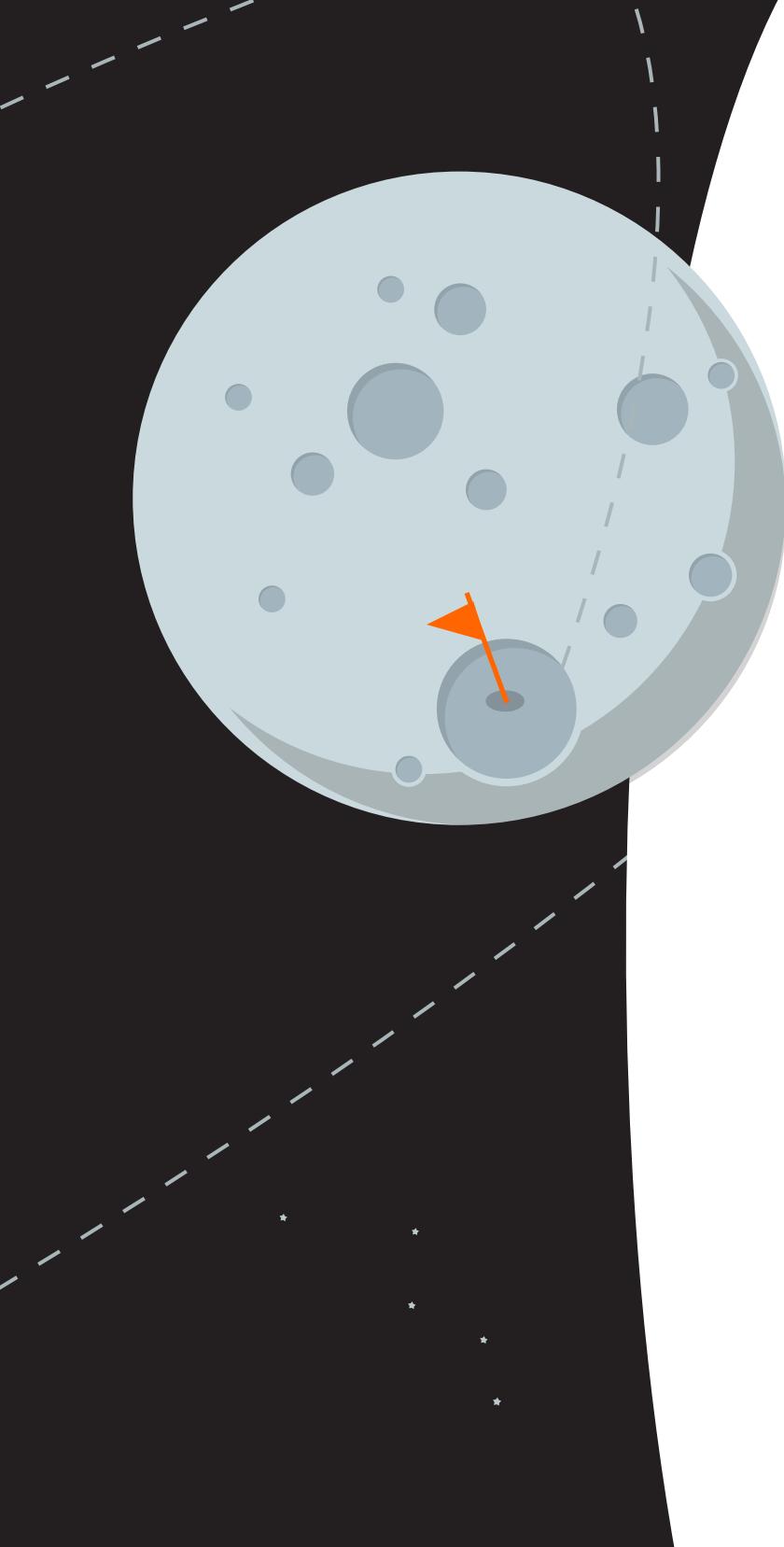
Take & Make Craft Kit: Interactive Eclipse Shadowbox

Pick up beginning Friday,
October 6, while supplies last

The Eclipse & Our Solar System GRADES K-5

See details p.14.

Friday, October 13, 7–8 pm



DESTINATION: MOON

Apollo 11 Poster Exhibition

When Apollo 11 landed on the Moon and humans first set foot on another celestial body, it gave humanity a new perspective from which to view the world. More than 50 years later, the Apollo program remains the benchmark for great national achievement. This poster exhibition looks back at this historic mission and aims to inspire the next generation of innovators, scientists, explorers, and astronauts.

Ongoing in October in the library lobby

Smithsonian

Destination Moon: The Apollo 11 Mission Poster Exhibition is based on a traveling exhibition of the same name, developed by the National Air and Space Museum and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service. The exhibition is made possible by the support of Jeff and MacKenzie Bezos, Joe Clark, Bruce R. McCaw Family Foundation, the Charles and Lisa Simonyi Fund for Arts and Sciences, John and Susann Norton, and Gregory D. and Jennifer Walston Johnson.

Upcoming NASA Moon Missions

November 2024: Anticipated launch of the Artemis II mission, a 10-day expedition to send a crew of four astronauts around the Moon and bring them back safely.

2025: Anticipated launch of Artemis III, humanity's first landing on the lunar surface in more than 50 years. NASA will make history by sending the first humans to explore the region near the lunar South Pole.

Solar Eclipse

Viewers throughout most of the U.S. will have a partial view of the annular solar eclipse. The library will distribute a limited number of viewing glasses. Watch for announcements and details.

Saturday, October 14

Cook Along with Chef Kristyn: Space Foods GRADES K–8

See details p.12.

Friday, October 20, 7–8 pm 

Space Exploration with the James Webb Telescope ADULTS & TEENS

See details p.6.

Monday, November 6, 7–8 pm 

Classes & Events for teens

Note location with each event (🌳 outdoors, 🏛️ indoors, 🌐 online). All events are free and open to all. Signup is required unless otherwise noted. Sign up at VAPLD.info/calendar or call 224-543-1486.

Chess Mini Games GRADES 5–8

New to chess? Learn basics and advance your skills by playing smaller chess-related games.

Tuesday, September 5, 7–8:30 pm 🏛️

Teen Volunteering GRADES 7–12

Virtual volunteering makes it easy to earn service hours and give back in a way that works for you. The library program is completely flexible: no application, no training, and no minimum hours. Begin at VAPLD.info/TeenVolunteers.

September 6–December 8 🌐

Cook Along with Chef Kristyn

GRADES K–8

Add some fun to a Friday night by cooking along with the group from home on Zoom.

Fridays, 7–8 pm 🌐

September 8: Fall Favorites

October 20: Space Foods

November 17: Great Pumpkin Recipes

Teen Take & Make Craft Kits

GRADES 6–12

Reserve beginning 30 days in advance; pick up on the date indicated.

September 15: Macramé Ghost

November 17: DIY Fabric Gift Wrap (*Furoshiki*)

Off the Page: A Teen Book Club

GRADES 8–12

Participants get a copy of the book to keep and custard (our treat!)

Mondays, 7–8:15 pm 🏛️ Culver's, Lincolnshire

September 18: *The Agathas* by Kathleen Glasgow & Liz Lawson

October 16: *Squad* by Maggie Tokuda-Hall

November 27: *Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood* by Marjane Satrapi

Drawing Optical Illusions with Dan Gogh GRADES 6–12

Explore everyday optical illusions with instructor Dan Gogh. Learn the secrets of 2D and 3D optical illusions and follow steps to recreate a famous optical illusion.

Tuesday, September 19, 6–7 pm 🏛️

STEAM Fair ALL AGES

Drop by the Annex Lawn and check out the life science STEAM stations with the library and special guest Deb Krohn the Frog Lady. No signup required.

Saturday, September 23, 1–3 pm 🌳

Rebecca Caudill Award Book Discussion GRADES 6–8

Discuss *Daughter of the Deep* by Rick Riordan. A copy of the book (yours to keep) is reserved when you register.

Thursday, October 3, 7–8 pm 🏛️

Parent Education: Growing Up in Public

PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN GRADES K–12

Dr. Devorah Heitner empowers parents to support kids growing up in a social media world. Presented in partnership with Districts 96, 102, 103 and 125 Parent Programming.

Wednesday, October 11, 7–8:15 pm 🌐

Chess Challenge Meetup

GRADES 5–8

Already know how to play chess? Join friends for practice games.

Tuesday, October 24, 7–8:15 pm 🏛️

Space Exploration with the James Webb Telescope TEENS & ADULTS

The James Webb Space Telescope is fundamentally altering our understanding of black holes, the early Universe, stars, and planets. Learn about this groundbreaking mission as

we explore the latest stunning images from the telescope with astro educator Michelle Nichols.

Monday, November 6, 7–8 pm 🌐 🏛️

The Great Puzzle Race GRADES 6–12

Teams race each other to complete the same 500-piece puzzle.

Monday, November 13, 6:30–8 pm 🏛️

Open Teen Makerspace

GRADES 8–12

Stop by to work on a personalized, holiday gift for a friend or family. Choose from a variety of crafts including bracelet making and personalized mugs/ornaments. Bring a photo or create your own artwork to permanently affix to a mug using sublimation.

Thursday, November 30, 6:30–8 pm 🏛️



Space Exploration with the James Webb Telescope

Featured Resources for elementary-aged kids



CHILDREN'S BOOKS IN ANY LANGUAGE

Enjoy picture books in 60+ world languages with the new LOTE4Kids app. Download the app for your phone or tablet, then log in with your library card number.



LEARN TO READ KITS

Reading instruction tools like Hooked on Phonics and Bob Books make these kits perfect for beginning readers. Several kits help English language learners become readers. Find the Learn to Read kits in the early reader area at the library or online at VAPLD.info/LearnToRead



BOOKFLIX

This great resource from Scholastic pairs video storybooks with nonfiction e-books to develop reading skills and real-world knowledge in kids in pre-K through grade 3. VAPLD.info/BookFlix

Classes & Events for elementary-aged kids

Note location with each item (🌳 outdoors, 🏙 indoors, 🌐 online). All events are free and open to all. Signup is required unless otherwise noted. Sign up at VAPLD.info/calendar or call 224-543-1486.

Take & Make Craft Kits ALL AGES

Stop by the library each month for instructions and supplies to make a craft. Available while supplies last beginning:
 September 1: Flying Bird
 October 6: Interactive Eclipse Shadowbox *Save a shoe box for this craft
 October 20: Halloween
 November 3: Diwali

Chess Mini Games GRADES 2–8

New to chess? Learn strategies and techniques by playing smaller chess-related games.

Tuesday, September 5 🏙
 Grades 2–4: 4:30–6 pm
 Grades 5–8: 7–8:15 pm

Pirate STEM Storytime GRADES K–2

Shiver me timbers! This pirate-themed STEM storytime will feature a swashbuckling story and a variety of related STEM activities.

Thursday, September 7, 4:30–5:15 pm 🏙

Cook Along with Chef Kristyn

GRADES K–8

Add some fun to a Friday night by cooking along with the group from home on Zoom.
 Fridays, 7–8 pm 🌐
 September 8: Fall Favorites
 October 20: Space Foods
 November 17: Great Pumpkin recipes

Family Concerts ALL AGES

Enjoy performances by nationally acclaimed children's musicians.

Saturdays, 11–11:45 am
 September 9: The Dreamtree Shakers 🌳
 October 7: Alina Celeste & Mi Amigo Hamlet 🌳
 November 4: The Scribblemonsters 🏙

Create Art with Miss Jane GRADES K–5

Follow along step-by-step to paint a magical firefly scene.

Tuesday, September 12 🏙
 Grades K–2: 4:30–5:30 pm
 Grades 3–5: 7–8 pm

Drawing Optical Illusions GRADES 2–5

Explore everyday optical illusions with instructor Dan Gogh. Learn the secrets of 2-D and 3-D optical illusions and follow steps to recreate a famous optical illusion.

Tuesday, September 19, 4:30–5:30 pm 🏙

STEAM Fair ALL AGES

Drop by the Annex Lawn and check out the life science STEAM stations with the library and special guest Deb Krohn the Frog Lady. No signup required.

Saturday, September 23, 1–3 pm 🌳

Lego Master Builders GRADES K–5

Transportation Challenge: bring your dream vehicle to life with Legos. Choose one session.

Tuesday, September 26 🏙
 4:30–5:30 pm or 7–8 pm

Animal Crossing Open Play ALL AGES

Visit the virtual VernonArea Island. We'll post the Dodo Code on the Vernon Area Animal Crossing Fans Facebook group page when gates open. Drop in.

Wednesday, September 27, 7–9 pm

 on your Nintendo Switch

Community Service Project with SHS Rotary Youth Club GRADES 2–5

Embrace the spirit of service above self and make no-sew fleece blankets for local hospices and other charities.

Monday, October 2, 4:30–5:30 pm 

Cartoon Workshop with**Mark Anderson GRADES K–5**

Humans have long connected the dots in the sky and turned the stars into stories. In this class, we'll create our own constellations, then embellish them cartoon style!

Thursday, October 5 

Grades K–2: 4:30–5:30 pm

Grades 3–5: 6–7 pm

Exploring Great Artists: Joan Miró**GRADES K–5**

Learn about this influential Catalan artist, then follow along step-by-step to create your own abstract surrealist masterpiece.

Tuesday, October 10 

Grades K–2: 4:30–5:30 pm

Grades 3–5: 7–8 pm

**Parent Education:
Growing Up in Public****PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN GRADES K–12**

Dr. Devorah Heitner empowers parents to support kids growing up in a social media world. Presented in partnership with Districts 96, 102, 103 and 125 Parent Programming.

Wednesday, October 11, 7–8:15 pm 

The Eclipse & Our Solar System**GRADES K–5**

The Discovery Center Museum is back with their virtual planetarium to teach us about the upcoming solar eclipse.

Friday, October 13, 7–8 pm 

Calligraphy Workshop with SHS Chinese Honor Society GRADES K–5

Explore Chinese culture through calligraphy and traditional stories. Presented in partnership with Stevenson High School National Chinese Honor Society.

Tuesday, October 17, 6–7:30 pm 

Children's Book Author & Illustrator Grace Lin

Drawing demonstration and discussion of food, family, and folktales.

Tuesday, October 17, 7–8 pm 

K9 Reading Buddies GRADES 1–5

A trained therapy dog listens patiently while your grade school student reads aloud, helping build confidence and encourage reading. Sign up for a 15-minute spot beginning 30 days before the program by calling 224-543-1486 or visiting the Youth Desk.

Wednesdays, 6:15–7:30 pm 

October 18, November 15

Bluestem Award Book Discussion**GRADES 3–5 WITH AN ADULT**

This parent-child book group will discuss *Ways to Make Sunshine* by Renee Watson. Pick up a copy of the book (yours to keep) at the Youth Desk.

Thursday, October 19, 7–8 pm 

Chess Challenge Meetup GRADES 2–8

Already know how to play chess? Join friends for practice games.

Tuesday, October 24 

Grades 2–4: 4:30–5:45 pm

Grades 5–8: 7–8:15 pm

Birds of Prey with the Stillman Nature Center GRADES K–5

Learn about local raptors.

Thursday, October 26, 7–8 pm 

T-Explorers Dinovember Fun**GRADES K–5**

Get excited about science and nature during this interactive program with authentic dinosaur bones.

Thursday, November 2, 7–8 pm 

Woodland Stories with**the Dunn Museum GRADES K–2**

Learn about Potawatomi food, clothing, and shelter through artifacts and replicas from the museum's collection.

Tuesday, November 7, 4:30–5:30 pm 

Potawatomi Lifeways with the Dunn Museum GRADES 3–5

Examine Potawatomi daily life in the early 19th century by using primary sources, objects and inquiry skills. Learn about the impact of the fur trade and today's Native cultures.

Tuesday, November 7, 6–7 pm 

Lego Robotics GRADES K–5

Build and program the Giant Escape model using the LEGO Education WeDo software in this fun, hands-on class.

Wednesday, November 8 

Grades K–2: 4:30–5:30 pm

Grades 3–5: 7–8 pm

Embossed Aluminum Designs**Art Workshop GRADES 2–5**

Local Artist Terri Murphy brings her embossed aluminum workshop to the library. Take Zentangles a notch higher by embossing designs on aluminum sheets and designing a border with colored pencils.

Thursday, November 16, 4:30–6 pm 

Celebrate Diwali through Dance & Storytelling GRADES K–5

Meher Dance Company leads a fun-filled event for families.

Saturday, November 18, 11 am–12 pm 

Candy Chemistry GRADES K–5

Work cooperatively in this hands-on workshop to explore different chemistry concepts using a variety of candy.

Tuesday, November 21, 

Grades K–2: 4:30–5:15 pm

Grades 3–5: 7–8 pm

Fall STEM Storytime GRADES K–2

Featuring a popular story and related science activities.

Wednesday, Nov. 29, 4:30–5:15 pm 

Picture Book Month



Vernon Area Early Literacy Librarian Julia Beavis shares insight about the important role of picture books in your child's reading journey.

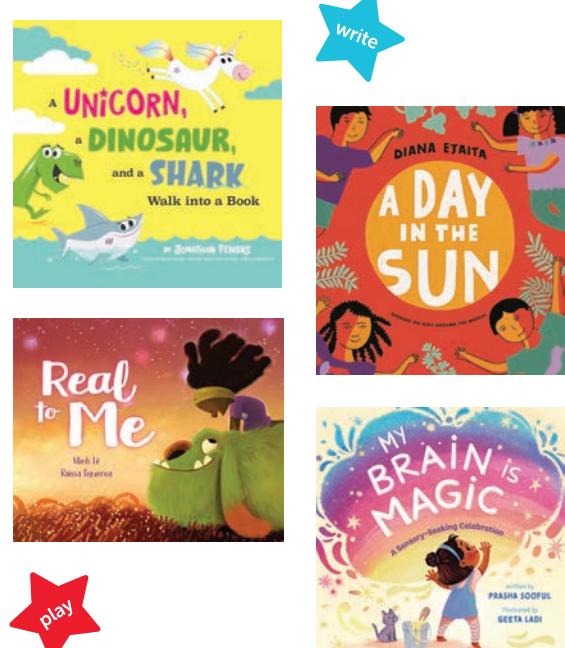
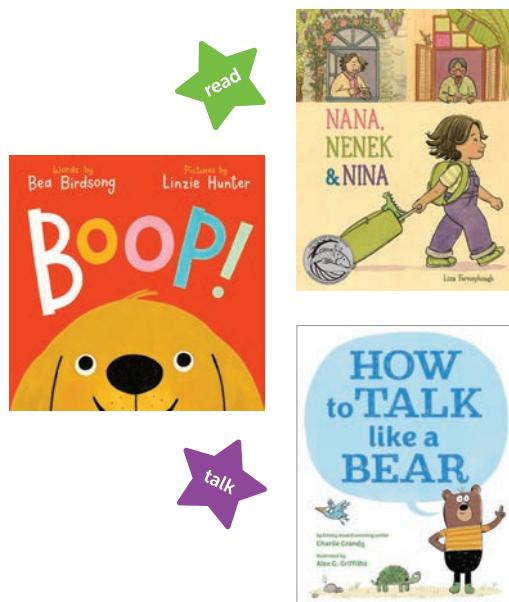
Did you know? November is Picture Book Month! Picture Book Month is an international literacy initiative that celebrates picture books. The name "Picture Books" can be a bit confusing, because while some picture books can be wordless, more often than not, they are accompanied by a written story. Pictures are the main focus, but the story is just as important.

There's a reason why books like *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, *Goodnight Moon*, and *The Snowy Day* are so beloved — many of us were first introduced to reading by exploring picture books with a caregiver. While you may be familiar with the classics, there are many wonderful new picture books to read and share with your family.

You can check out picture books to enjoy at home or read them while at the library, but we also use picture books in library storytimes. When we do, we are not only sharing stories, we are also offering tools to promote the five early literacy practices: talk, sing, read, write, and play.

Talking helps your child learn new vocabulary. Singing helps children develop listening skills. Using markers, crayons, or a paintbrush helps build hand strength and dexterity for future writing. And playing is how children learn communication skills, problem solving, and creativity. Apply these early literacy practices by making reading a part of your everyday routine by sharing books at naptime, bathtime, or bedtime.

It is a great joy to read and share picture books with children, but picture books are for everyone! There is no age limit. We hope this November, whether you're 1 month old or 100 years old, you'll check out a picture book from the library.





Lil' Trick-or-Reading

Classes & Events for early childhood

Drop In

It's easier than ever to make storytime part of your family's weekly routine. Drop in for the session that's right for your child's age. Claim an entry ticket when you arrive, then join the fun!

Baby Rhyme Storytime 0-14 MONTHS

Grow your baby's brain with songs, rhymes, and books with Miss Kelsey. Then connect and socialize with other new parents while your baby plays with educational toys.

Wednesdays, 9:30–10 am

September 6, 13, 27; October 4, 11; November 1, 8, 29

Wiggling Ones 12-24 MONTHS

Add 30 minutes of joy to your week. Giggle, sing, and play along with your little one, other families, and Miss Julia.

Tuesdays, 9:30–10 am or 10:30–11 am

September 12, 19, 26; October 10, 17, 24; November 7, 14, 21

Together 2s & 3s AGES 2-3

Share stories and learn sign language with Miss Sarah. Activities center around a letter of the day.

Mondays, 9:30–10 am or 10:30–11 am

September 11, 18, 25; October 9, 16, 23; November 6, 13, 20

Preschool Storytime AGES 3-5

Get ready for school with Miss Emily by practicing the language, listening, and pre-reading skills needed for kindergarten. Children attend without an adult.

Thursdays, 9:30–10 am or 10:30–11 am

September 7, 14, 21; October 5, 12, 19; November 2, 9, 16

Starry Night Storytime AGES 0-6

Get out those last few wiggles during an evening storytime with Miss Julia.

Thursdays, 6–6:30 pm

September 28, October 26

Saturday Storytime AGES 0-6

Literacy begins at the library! Expert librarians use books, songs, and props that capture the attention of all ages. Perfect for working families, bookworms, wiggleworms, and everyone in between!

Saturday, November 25, 10–10:30 am

Sign Up in Advance

Free and open to all. For these storytimes and events, sign up in advance at VAPLD.info/calendar, by telephone at 224-543-1486 or at any public service desk in the library. Note location with each item (outdoors, indoors, online).

Science Detectives AGES 3–6

STEM-themed stories and activities with Miss Lisa Marie.

Fridays, 10–10:30 am

September 1, October 6, November 3

Yoga Storytime AGES 3–8

Twist, bend, and stretch in this kid friendly yoga storytime. Miss Sarah combines well-being and early literacy while sharing stories, rhymes and simple poses with you and your child. Please bring a yoga mat or a towel.

Saturday, September 2, 10–10:45 am

Evening Stories with Miss Emily AGE 3–GRADE 2

Put on pajamas and relax with a bedtime story.

Sign up for each month separately.

Wednesdays, 7–7:30 pm

September 6, 13, 20; October 4, 11, 18; November 1, 8, 15

Family Concerts ALL AGES

Enjoy performances by nationally acclaimed children's musicians.

Saturdays, 11–11:45 am

September 9: The Dreamtree Shakers

October 7: Alina Celeste & Mi Amigo Hamlet

November 4: The Scribblemonsters

Mini Math Magicians AGES 3–5

Explore math concepts through books, games and activities with preschool pro Miss Emily.

Thursdays, 10–10:30 am

September 28, October 26

Oaks & Acorns Storytime AGES 0–5

Bring your little acorn to a very special storytime at a local assisted living facility. Home residents join an intergenerational experience that brings joy to everyone through songs, stories, and instruments.

Tuesday, October 3, 10–11 am

Sunrise Senior Living, Buffalo Grove

Bilingual Storytime AGES 0–6

Read stories and sing songs in Mandarin and English with Miss Laura.

Saturday, October 21, 10–10:30 am

Lil' Trick-or-Reading AGES 0–2.5

Costumes welcome at this scary-less Halloween storytime followed by a trick-or-treating parade through the library.

Wednesday, October 25, 9:30–10:15 am or 11–11:45 am

Monster Mash Bash AGES 3–5

Feeling slightly spooky? Join Miss Emily and Miss Julia for stories, songs, and dancing at the Monster Mash Bash. Costumes encouraged!

Monday, October 30, 10–10:45 am

Sunshine Squad: Attitude of Gratitude AGES 0–6

Sharing appreciation and actively looking for things that make us happy can foster a positive and resilient attitude in our world. Through books, songs, and a hands-on activity we will nurture this attitude of gratitude.

Wednesday, November 22, 10–10:45 am

Music & Movement Storytime AGES 0–6

Read, sing, and dance together in a musical storytime with Miss Julia.

Tuesday, November 28, 10–10:30 am



Vernon Area Public Library
300 Olde Half Day Rd.
Lincolnshire, IL 60069-2901

Connect

VAPLD.info

Main: 847-634-3650

Text: 847-565-6457

App: Look for Vernon Area Public Library in your device's App Store

Get a Library Card

Free and available to all district residents. Apply online at VAPLD.info/card or visit.

Returns

Return materials 24/7 to the drive-up slot on the front of the library or at these drop boxes:
VAPLD.info/bookdrops

Open

Monday–Thursday 9 am – 9 pm

Friday–Saturday 9 am – 5 pm

Sunday 10 am – 5 pm

Before-hours access is available daily for people who prefer a "mask required" environment. See VAPLD.info or call 847-634-3650 for info about special operating hours.

Closed

September 3–4

September 29

November 22, closing early at 5 pm

November 23



▲ Check this out

The inaugural season of Family Fun Fridays was a great success! At five drop-in sessions over the summer, more than 500 people enjoyed new educational toys and the upgraded outdoor space.